



Dr. Calvin Ball

THE CALVIN BALL BULLETIN

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Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in construction projects near your home or that impact your commute. This newsletter helps me connect with you and allows me to share ways we, as a County, are working to make our County a better place for you. In doing so, you can stay informed of not only current projects, but those planned for the future so that you can plan your commute accordingly.

If you have questions about a project you don't see included within this edition, please email me at cball@howardcountymd.gov or my Special Assistant Kim Pruim at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov and we'll work to identify updates that are publicly available. As always, I encourage you to share this newsletter with your friends, family and neighbors.

Make Your Voice Heard

2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

Make your voice heard and participate in a discussion with the HC Department of Recreation and Parks with Sasaki Associates about the recent 2017 Land Preservation Plan. The plan outlines the county's intentions play, grow, and preserve in the next few years by improving recreational amenities, conserving open space, and protecting natural resources. Make your opinion heard [here](#). To participate in the survey, click [here](#).

Central Maryland Transit Development Plan

The County is seeking your input for the developing short-range Transit Development Plan (TDP) for Central Maryland. The TDP will be a guide for transit services in the Central Maryland region and provide a roadmap for implementing service and organizational improvements, including service expansion, for the next five years. A series of meetings will take place in order to give the public an opportunity to voice their opinion and will be on:

- **Wednesday, October 19, 2016 7-9pm** at the George Howard Building
- **Thursday, October 20, 2016 7-9pm** at the North Laurel Community Center
- **Thursday, October 27, 2016 7-9pm** at the Gateway Building

Alpha Ridge Improvements

A construction project to replace a concrete plaza at Alpha Ridge Park in West Friendship. The project's objective is to remove and replace the plaza area in front of the park's restrooms and Howard Astronomical League Observatory. The project has already begun. Due to the construction, the restrooms, observatory, and adjacent parking are all closed. Other park facilities and fields are open and portable toilets are available. All facilities are scheduled to open to the public tomorrow afternoon **Saturday, October 8, 2016**.

Cedar Villa Park Drainage Improvements

Howard County's Department of Public Works will hold an informal public meeting on **Thursday, October 13, 2016** from **6-8pm** in the cafeteria at **Mayfield Woods Middle School, 7950 Red Barn Way** in Elkridge to discuss a drainage improvement project. The Bureau of Engineering has developed phased plans to improve run-off problems that contribute to winter roadway icing on Lincoln Dr, Cedar Ave and Georgia Ave in Jessup. I've been working with the County and community leaders to address this issue and thrilled to see this project move forward.

The first phase of construction is expected to begin in **mid-October**. Detour routes and final plans for the first phase and conceptual plans for the second phase will be on display at the meeting. Staff will also be on hand to explain the project design, to answer questions and to take comments on the second phase of the project. Those unable to attend but would like to view the plans and/or have questions are asked to contact **Kris Singleton** at **410-313-2014** or email ksingleton@howardcountymd.gov.

Patuxent Branch Trail

Howard County's Department of Public Works held a public information session last night **Thursday, October 6, 2016** to discuss a trail extension project. The first phase will connect the existing Patuxent Branch Trail to Downtown Columbia at Lake Kittamaqundi and once fully constructed, will provide a vehicle-free pathway from Downtown Columbia to Savage.

This phase creates a 10-ft wide paved pathway for non-motorized use, employing existing paved surface along the Patuxent River to the greatest possible extent. Additional construction will include 2 short bridges and passage under 2 major roadways. The scope of this work lies between the intersection of Little Patuxent Parkway at S. Entrance Rd and Stevens Forest Dr at Brokenland Pkwy. Construction and final design are dependent upon future funding.

Those unable to attend but who would still like to view the proposed plans and/or have questions are asked to contact **Kris Singleton** at **410-313-6138** or email ksingleton@howardcountymd.gov.

Snowden River Pkwy Sidewalk

A project to extend the sidewalk along the 8200 block Snowden River Pkwy to Route 108. The sidewalk construction is complete; however, we are still awaiting the installation of pedestrian signals. We anticipate this to be complete in the coming weeks.

Little Patuxent Pkwy Lane Additions

This project includes the addition of a turning lane, deceleration lane and traffic signal on Little Patuxent Pkwy in Columbia. These new additions will aid with the flow of traffic from the new Howard County Community College parking garage. The project has already begun and construction hours are between 9am-3pm. During these hours, work zone traffic control devices will be in place to help direct traffic as needed. These measures help with the expected temporary lane closures and lane shifts. Weather permitting, we anticipate the project to conclude **mid-November**.

John Hopkins APL Water Main

A project to extend additional public water service to the JHU Applied Physics Laboratory has begun. It includes the installation of around 900 linear feet of 12-inch water pipe along Johns Hopkins Road. Motorists can expect temporary lane closures that affect Johns Hopkins Road, Scanner Road, and Maple Lawn Boulevard on weekdays, 9am-3pm. The South Campus and APL Drive entrances have also been impacted. Flagging operations are in place to direct traffic and alert motorists of the construction. The project is expected to conclude **mid-December**, weather permitting.

Elkridge Library - Charles I. Ecker Campus

A project to renovate our Elkridge Library, renamed as the Charles I. Ecker Campus. Highlights include: five study rooms, three meeting rooms, vending cafe, business center, increased number of public access computers, expanded collection, a DIY Education Center, Design Institute and a HiTech Classroom. A satellite location has opened at Elkridge ES to continue serving our Elkridge residents and the northeastern corridor of the County. The branch is scheduled to reopen in **early 2018**, weather permitting. For more details on this project, email elkridge.project@hclibrary.org.
[Read more](#)



Blandair Park Construction

Phase 2 - Construction has begun and will include sidewalk connections, a playground, two artificial turf fields, comfort station, pavilion, five tennis courts, parking lot, a promenade, a County bus stop and storm water management facilities. The artificial turf fields, and lights are installed. The tennis fields, storm water facilities, pavilion and comfort station are almost complete. For a map of Phase II, click [here](#). Weather permitting, Recreation & Parks anticipates completion by **September 2017**.

Rt 175 Interchange - As part of the construction at Blandair Park, the County will construct an interchange directly from Route 175 into the park between Thunder Hill Rd and Tamar Dr. This will reduce traffic coming into Oakland Mills and our local roads. This project is under construction. There is no estimate on completion at this time.

Phase J - Project to include the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Oakland Mills Rd & Old Montgomery Rd and realign Oakland Mills Rd in Blandair Park. Construction has begun on the road realignment. A portion of Oakland Mills Rd. in Blandair Park has been closed during the realignment reconstruction.

As part of the Blandair project, a bridge over Rt 175 will be built connecting the northern and southern portions of the park. Once that is complete, the entrance to Blandair Park from Schap Ln. will be formally closed in response to resident concerns.

Sweet Hours Way Culvert Replacement Project

A project to install a culvert under Sweet Hours Way has begun and includes the replacement of a corrugated metal pipe and the installation of reinforced concrete pipe between **7614 Sweet Hours Way** and **7630 Moon Portrait Way**. There will also be stream restoration including regrading and the replanting of trees. A portion of the pedestrian pathway south of Sweet Hours Way will be closed. Signs have been posted advising residents of sidewalk and pathway closures. The project is expected to be completed by **mid-November**.

Chrysalis Amphitheater in Downtown Columbia



As the first of the seven-phase development plan by the Inner Arbor Trust, the Chrysalis Amphitheater will be a shell-shaped outdoor facility east of Merriweather Post Pavilion. The capacity is 400 people with two stages: the Alpha Stage proscenium for larger productions and the Beta Stage proscenium with a thrust stage for smaller events.

Construction is ongoing. The outer skin of green shingles is being fabricated and will be featured soon. This one-of-a-kind building is anticipated to be complete this year, with an

opening expected in **Spring 2017** to celebrate and honor Columbia's 50th Birthday. A September 2016 update with images is available online [here](#). **Read More**

Lynwood Manor Stormwater Quality Improvements

A project to provide stormwater quality treatment to the detention pond at Avalon Dr. in the vicinity of Sandy Ridge Ct. in ElkrIDGE has begun. It will involve a retrofit of the pond's principal reinforced concrete spillway structure, creation of a forebay and improvement to water quality.

Vehicular traffic and parking access will not be interrupted. A portion of sidewalk will be closed. The existing golf cart path at the site will be closed but a temporary path will be available for use. A sign will be posted near the site to advise motorists of the construction. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed **early December 2016**.

Rt 29 Lighting Upgrades



This project will upgrade the existing interchange lighting and install new interchange guide signs where appropriate. SHA anticipates Rt 29 at Rt 108 and Rt 103 at Rt 40 to be completed **Fall 2016**, weather permitting. Rt 29 at Rt 32 to Rt 175 is expected to be complete **February 2018**, weather permitting.

BGE Gas Main

BGE is upgrading a portion of the natural gas system near Columbia with installation of a new, underground natural gas main to reinforce the gas system serving the area.

The gas main will be located along nearly one mile of Old Montgomery Rd between Rt 108 and Rt 103 in the road right of way. Work will take place from **8am-4pm Monday-Friday** and will necessitate one lane closure during this period. Traffic will be limited to a single lane and will be controlled by flaggers. Outside of the 8am to 4pm work period, two-way traffic will be restored. BGE does not expect that gas service will be interrupted as a result of this work. If a temporary service interruption is required, you will be notified in advance.

Initial aspects of this project are underway and you may notice work crews on the right of way. All crews will have identification indicating they are BGE's authorized contractor, Willbros Construction. Work is scheduled to be complete during **Fall 2016**.

If you have any questions, contact BGE at BGEPipeline@bge.com or **1-800-685-0123** and reference the Old Montgomery Rd Gas Main Reinforcement.

Rt 29 Widening Project

Phase 1B NB Rt 29 (Third Ln Widening & Noise Wall Construction) - Under Construction. Noise walls continue to be constructed along east side of NB Rt 29 (Seneca Dr to Rt 175). Final work on the road surface is scheduled to begin **Fall 2016** with project completion in **Spring 2017**.

Rt 29 at Rt 175 Ramp Revision: This project will include the elimination of NB Rt 29 to WB Rt 175 cloverleaf ramp and replacing it with a new traffic light on Route 175 accessed via the

NB Rt 29 to EB Rt 175 ramp. SHA anticipates this project will begin after Phase IB concludes, approximately **Spring 2017**.

Gales Ln: SHA has acquired all properties. Gales Ln is scheduled to close in **Fall 2016**.

River's Edge: SHA's design office met with the Clarks Crossing community in April and sent a summary of the meeting. SHA anticipates hosting another community meeting in **early 2017**.

Murray Hill Road Stormwater Improvements

A construction project to replace the principal spillway of a detention pond on Murray Hill Rd in the vicinity of Vollmerhausen Rd in Columbia has begun. It includes grading to provide greater stormwater management capacity and replacement of the pond's principal spillway.

Temporary, partial WB lane closures on Vollmerhausen Rd can be expected during construction hours, **M-F 7am-5pm**. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed. In addition, sections of sidewalk along the west side of Vollmerhausen Rd and near the SE corner of the intersection of Murray Hill Rd and Vollmerhausen Rd and a portion of the walking pathway between the west side of Vollmerhausen Rd and 7635 Murray Hill Road will be closed during the project. Signs will be posted near the site to advise motorists and pedestrians of the construction.

Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed **mid-January 2017** and is funded by the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.

Little Patuxent Parkway Water Transmission Main

A project to install a water transmission main along Little Patuxent Parkway in Columbia is underway. It will include the installation of approx. 9,000 linear ft of 36-in water pipe to provide redundancy to the Howard County water distribution system. The majority of the work will take place along the SB shoulder of Little Patuxent Pkwy between South Entrance Rd and Columbia Rd.

A portion of SB Little Patuxent Pkwy in the vicinity of the project will be closed from **mid-January 2017 to mid-March 2017**. During the closure, traffic will follow a marked detour using Governor Warfield Pkwy. Flagging operations will be in place to direct traffic as needed, and signs will be posted to alert motorists. Weather permitting, the project is expected to be completed by **late April 2017**.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Montgomery Rd Water Transmission Main Replacement

A project to rehabilitate and replace approximately 14,000 linear feet of corroding 12-inch metallic water mains along Montgomery Rd between Miller's Corner and Lawyer's Hill Rd. This project is scheduled to begin **late-October** and is anticipated to last approximately 650 calendar days. Traffic control will be required for construction with Montgomery Rd. Delays can be expected during the hours of **9am-3pm**.

Old Montgomery Rd/Tamar Dr Roundabout

This project was requested by my office and proposes to install a single-lane roundabout at the intersection of Old Montgomery Rd and Tamar Dr in an effort to address safety concerns. A community meeting was held this summer and comments were gathered. County engineers are finalizing the scope of the project. At this time, there is no estimate on when this project will begin.

Montevideo Rd Relocation

This project will include the relocation of Montevideo Rd to align with Port Capital Dr. SHA anticipates this project will likely proceed before the Rt 1 widening. Designs are complete. The County is still working with stakeholders; therefore there is no estimate of when this project will proceed at this time.

Rt 1 at Kit Kat - Traffic Signal & Road Improvements



SHA is designing a traffic signal for the intersection of Rt 1 at Kit Kat Rd. The schedule calls for construction in **2018**. SHA anticipates 35% design completion in **Fall 2016** and are reviewing a request for a pedestrian crossing and sidewalk construction as part of their initial design.

There is also a County capital project to improve Kit Kat Rd by widening the paved roadway section and/or adding a small shoulder. A study is currently underway to determine what improvements are needed and what can reasonably be installed.

Old Roxbury Rd Widening Project

Howard County's Department of Public Works held a public meeting in **May 2016** to present a preliminary design for the widening of Old Roxbury Rd between Rt 97 and Rivercrest Ct. There was no formal presentation, but proposed concept plans were available and staff members were on hand to explain the plans, answer questions, and gather comments. DPW is currently working on designs. They anticipate this project could go to construction in **summer 2017**.

If you were unable to attend but would like to view the proposed plans and/or have questions, contact **Brandon Love** at **410-313-5398** or email blove@howardcountymd.gov.

SHA Repaving Plans

I-95 (Baltimore Co line to Rt 100 Patching) - SB lanes are complete. Weather permitting, SHA anticipates NB completion in **Fall 2016**.

Rt 216 (PG Co Line to Stephens Rd - Overlay) - SHA anticipates completion **Fall 2016**.

Rt 32 EB/WB (Rt 108 to Middle Patuxent River - Overlay) - A Notice to Proceed for SB has been given. A tentative Notice to Proceed for NB is anticipated for **Spring 2017**.

Traffic Signal - Rt 103 at Wesley/Old Stockbridge

My office requested this project to address traffic concerns. SHA has received right-of-way (ROW) funding necessary for the project to proceed. SHA anticipates they will begin construction **Spring 2018**, pending ROW acquisition.



Rt 1: Rt 175 to Montevideo Rd - Widening

This is an SHA project to widen Rt 1 near the Rt 175 intersection and make other improvements as needed. Currently, SHA and the County are working together to coordinate right-of-way land acquisitions and collaborate on this project. There is no timeline at this time.

Rt. 103 @ Long Gate Pkwy

There are two projects in this corridor: SHA is studying widening Rt. 103 and a property owner has proposed a project next to the YMCA, which would allow for 79 townhomes with a max density of 111 townhomes. SHA is working with the property owner to install the missing sidewalk portion and possible installation of a traffic signal.

Road Widening: The Armory has historical significance and requires a certain frontage from the Rt 103. Due to the loss of frontage that would occur with the proposed widening and coupled with the determination that the Armory will be relocating in a few years, this project has been placed on hold. SHA anticipates the Armory will be vacated in **January 2020**. In anticipation, they are rescheduling the project ad date to **November 2019**, with the anticipation that construction would begin **Spring 2020**. This project has not been funded for construction, right-

of-way acquisition, or utility relocations.

Housing Project: School allocations have placed this project on hold.

Davis Branch Stream Restoration Project

A project to complete a stream restoration project on the Davis Branch, a Patapsco River tributary, located on the grounds of the Howard County Conservancy. The Davis Branch, like many area streams, has been heavily impacted, by stormwater and has experienced significant erosion. This project will utilize a variety of wood and rock structures to reestablish a more natural stream and floodplain condition, is expected to increase the variety of wildlife habitats, and create a more functional environmental system. It will support the County's water quality improvement and restoration efforts under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit.

Construction is scheduled to begin in **November 2016** and conclude in **Spring 2017**. Residents who would like to view the proposed plans and/or have questions should contact **Christine Lowe** at **410-313-0522** or email cslowe@howardcountymd.gov.

Thank You for Following Along!

I hope you have found my newsletter informational and useful, both in knowing what projects are happening in and around your neighborhood but also in planning your commute accordingly. If you have any questions or if there are any projects you would like to see included within this newsletter, please email me at cbball@howardcountymd.gov or contact my Special Assistant **Kim Pruim** at kpruim@howardcountymd.gov.

All the best,



Dr. Calvin Ball
Chairperson

[Howard County Council, District 2](#)

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

~John Quincy Adams

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